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P.01/16

Serial No.: 10/036,877

Amdt. Dated: September 30, 2004 Reply to Office action of July 27, 2004.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: James Manio Silva

Application No. 10/036,877

Filed: January 4th 2002

For:

METHOD FOR PURIFYING BRINE

Group Art Unit: 1724

Examiner: Cintins, Ivars C

Confirmation No.: 5166

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir,

In response to the Office Action mailed July 27, 2004 please consider the following amendments and remarks, and the attached DECLARATION OF APPLICANT UNDER 37 CFR §1.132. The Examiner had earlier withdrawn claims 27-29. The Applicants request that claims 1, 5, 14, 18, and 19 be amended as shown in the listing of the claims. Claims 1-26 are pending in this application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.